

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-5, 7-24 and 26-34 are pending. Claims 1-5, 7-24 and 26-32 are allowed. Claims 1, 2, 14, 16, 21 and 32-34 are independent.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101 AND § 112

Claims 33-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 33-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

In response to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101 and §112, Applicants submit that the specification, as originally filed, includes a statement identifying the computer readable media in page 32, paragraph [0125] and Fig. 5, which describes:

“[0125] The CPU 433 controls the operations of the components of the recorder block 403. The memory 432 allows data such as electronic mark data to be stored therein. The memory 432 is, for example, a RAM or an EEPROM. However, without limitation to the examples, alternatively, the memory 432 may be a magnetic storage unit such as a hard disk.”

There should be no dispute that a RAM or an EEPROM is a computer-readable medium. It, of course, is well known that other computer readable media exist. It is respectfully submitted that those of ordinary skill in the art, and even those having less than ordinary skill,

are well aware of the fact that computer-readable media are commercially available in several different forms, such as ROM, RAM, recording disks and the like. Such computer-readable media are predictable in that their structure and functions are well-known. It is submitted that there is no need to identify, in this application, all possible, conventional computer-readable media. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 33-34 are patentable.

CONCLUSION


In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of the statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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